FREE PRESS

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LOCK OUT ENDS

EMPLOYERS SPLIT

The lock-out of workers on national newspapers was called off last night amidst growing rumours of a serious split in the employer's body, the Newspapers Publishers Association (N.P.A.)

Publication of national newspapers will begin today. The N.P.A. has agreed to reinstate members of the National Graphical Association who were sacked at the beginning of the lock-out.

Talks on a final solution to the dispute are to continue today. It is clear however that the emplyers finally Locked down as a result of a serious dispute in their own ranks.

The employers have dropped their demand for a flat rate increase for all members. Instead, unions will be offered a choice between a percentage increase and a straight increase. This is designed to please both the lower paid and better paid workers. But in return unions have agreed to 15 months of trouble free production.

There were fears amo-ng printworkers in Manchester last nigh: that this would lead to a more provocative attitude from the bosses.

Three newspapers have lead the struggle against the hard-line attitude of the N.P.A. The Guardian, Observer and Financial Times have all argued for an early resumption of publications.

Neither the Guardian of the Observer have the money to continue the confrontation. The Financial Times on the other hand is so profitable that it is reluctant to expose it's share-holders to the possible consequences of a showdown with the unions.

The N.P.A. has been regarded as the most solid of employers associates. It's members have agreed that if the publication of one newspaper is stopped by an industrial dispute, all other papers will cease printing.

But there has been evidence of a growing rift in the ranks between the rich and poor papers There have even been suspicions that the more lucrative publications such as the 'Express and 'Telegraph' would welcome a prolonged stoppage as a means of driving it's competitors to the wall.

Five national newspapers are at present losing money. The Daily Mail, Times, Observer, Sunday Telegraph and Guardian are all faced with the prospect of closure, and even among the 'successful' papers, shareholders are disenchanted with the return on their money.

Lord Goodman.

RHODESIA — Settlement Near ?

Mr Ian Smith, Prime Minister of the illegal Rhodesian regime, yesterday rejected the idea of "one man, one vote" at any time.

His statement came as optimism grew in both Salisbury and London that a settlement to the six-year-old dispute was nearer.

Lord Gopdman, the British government's negotiator was non-committal when he arrived back in London yesterday with another member of the Governments mission, Sir Philip Adam.

Both men are reporting details of the talks to the government, and Conservative leaders hope that it will soon be possible to arrange a meeti-ing between Mr Smith and the British Foreign Minister, Sir Alec Douglas Home.

At a press conference in Salisbury, Mr Smith repeated his well known objectives towards democracy in Rhodesia. On the question of one man, one vote he said "We disapprove of that sort of thing at any time"

Mr Smith is known to be treading a delicate tightrope between his far right wing supporters and the British Government, who need at least a paper commitment to democracy to satisfy world opinions.

Announcement

OPERATION OMEGA
Direct Action in Bangla Desh:
Volunteers and money to
58 High Lane, Manchester 21.

FREE PRESS

Today's FREE PRESS is different.

No longer are workers from the National Union of Jou rnal-ists involved in producing i', because they were advised yesterday that it was a "black-leg paper". But not before most journalists had taken the hint and pulled out..

But FREE PRESS is not a blackleg paper be cause there was never any strike. A blackleg is someone who produces a product in place of workers who are on strike. The printworkers were locked-out by the News-Paper publishers, they were not on strike.

Amidst all this backbiting the main Union involved in the dispute, the National Graphical Association, stands up as an example of a bureaucracy which has misused it's power, and which is not neccessarily reflecting the shop-floor printworkers views.

Manchester printworkers were last night outraged that their union leaders had brought press-ure in the N.U.J. to "black" the FREE PRESS.

The printworkers are largely in favour of FREE PRESS, and we supported them in their lock-out. The officials of their union have not acted on their behalf in blacking FREE PRESS.

For the future, FREE PRESS can continue, with your support, to appear regularly as a paper acting for people everywhere in the Manchester region, much as the Liverpool Free Press reports news that other papers will not or cannot publish.

Post Charges Up Again

Further increases in postal charges were forecast yesterday by Mr Bill Ryland, Chairman of the Post Office. Speaking at the opening of a new postal management centre in Rugby, Mr Ryland said that the impact of rising costs was severe in a service industry where ¾ of all money spent went on wages and salaries.

He said, "this is one of the main reasons why the last two published accounts have shown a loss on the postal services and why the next accounts, to be published soon, will be pretty gloomy too, as I forecast they would during the strike."

In the Commons in July, Mr Chataway, Minister for Posts, said there would be no increases in postal rates this year.

CAR 'WRITE-OFFS' ROW exclusive

Car insurance companies in Britain have agreed, in conjunction with the Ministry of the Environment, to end a procedure which was used to improve road safety.

For the last three years, insurance companies have agreed to issue a certificate, FE 37, when cars were badly damaged in accidents and considered write-offs.

The certificates were returned to the authorities who stamped the Vehicle Log Book "Car seriously damaged".

From this information, nobody except a scrap merchant would be interested in buying the car.

After meetings between car insurances bosses and the Ministry officials, the insurances companies ended this procedure on September 1.

Car insurance workers, who have now been instructed by their managers to disregard the procedure, are incensed at the new attitude. A statement from their union, the ASTMS, criticising the Government and insurance companies is expected in the near future.

GENE VINCENT ROCKED

Gene Vincent, the American Rock and roll star, has been sacked from his £1000 week's engagement at the Garrick Club, Leigh.

The club manager, Mr Roy Jackson, said today that Gene Vincent had been suffering from a sore throat and a cold since his arrival from Los Angeles four days ago, and as a result his act had sufe
had suffered severely.

Gene Vincent last night denied that his act had been below standard.

"This guy Jackson is too fond of firing people. I'll s till be singing for the public when he's gone. I've got a sore throat all right but after 20 years in this business I can handle it and it doesn't affect the act."

ULSTER DEBATE— first day

"Territorials should not be called up in Ireland except in the gravest emergency," the Defence Secretary, Lord Carrington, said when he opened the Lords debate on Northern Ireland yesterday.

"But we have agreed to a scheme which will permit individual members of the Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Rserve to resign in order to join the Ulster Defence Regiment," he said.

Lord Carrington said this would enable these men to reenlist in the Territorial Army after their service without any break in continuity

And in the Commons yesterday, Mr Maudling, the Home Secretary, announced that Mr P.M. Dalton, a Roman Catholic former judge of the High Court of Kenya, would be a member of the Appeals Committee for internees in Ulster.

Mr Dalton, who is an Englishman, was appointed by the last Labour Government to the Immigrations Appeals Tribunal. Mr Maudling told the MPs at the beginning of the two-day debate on Northern Ireland that the basic problem now was "the men who shoot in the dark", who murdered soldeirs and left their gelignite bombs across the face of Belfast regardless of injury to men, women and children. British troops would remain in Ulster, he said, "so long as they were needed in support of law and order".

It was quite legitimate for the Northern Ireland Government to introduce internment, a measure which had been used in the past, he said.

Mr Harold Wilson said that the duty of MPs was to 'produce an atmosphere of coolness and sanity".

The Ulster situation was overcharged with violence, terror and fear, said the Opposition Leader.

But Mr Wilson added that there could be no moderation in the utter and unequivocal condemnation of violence and indescriminate murder, violence which in conception and execution was "of the very essence of evil".

"What worried me is growing evidence that the crude doctrine that Britain should withdraw and let the bloodbath follow is becoming

BELFAST-TERRITORIALS WILL HELP THE ARMY.

an instinctive reaction to the Northern Ireland problem. How often must we tell them that this is not a quarrel on our doorstep, it is within our house."

Mr Wilson said that following proposed Senate changes in Northern Ireland, there should be established as a matter of urgency a government of national reconstruction representing to a great degree the elected majority in Northern Ireland but including also responsible leaders of the Catholic community.

CINEMA & SOUND

Theatre Royal Cinerama—
Doctor Zhivago (A)
ABC 1 Deansgate—
Kelly's Heroes (A)
ABC 2 Deansgate—
Little Big Man (AA)
GAUMONT—The Music Lovers (X)
NEW OXFORD—Queimada (AA)
NEW OXFORD TODAY ONLY—
A Midsummer Night's Dream (U)
ODEON—Captain Apache (AA)
MFT—Isadora (AA)
OPERA HOUSE—Flesh (X)
STUDIO 1—Sexual Partnership (X)
STUDIO 2—A Gunfight (A)
CINEPHONE—The Savage Eye (X)

The Spinners, Free Trade Hall, September 25.
Tony Blackburn, Father's Moustache, Albert Square.
Gene Pitney September 24, Odeon THeatre.
Adam Faith, Golden Garter Club
David Garrick, Fagin's.

STOP PRESS - 2am

Captain Ernest Medina, on trial for charges including the involuntary manslaughter of 100 women and children during the Mai Lai massacre in 1968, was acquitted on all charges by a five-man military jury. Medina was the immediate superior of Lieutenant Calley, whose conviction caused a nationwide outcry and the unprecedented intervention of President Nixon ealier in the year.

SALFORD FAMILIES THREATENED

For the next eight days, 24 families in Salford will live in constant fear of eviction by the bailiff.

Earlier this week, eviction orders served by Salford Corporation came into effect which could effect about 50 adults and 150 children.

The orders were taken out under a law which is 143 years old. Under the 1838 Small Tenements Recovery Act, a local authority can evict tenants virtually automatically.

But after fierce opposition from the tenants, organised in the Salford Housing Action Group, a Salford Corporation reaction already shows signs of backing down. Several tenants have now received written assurances that orders will not be put into effect.

If the Corporation goes ahead, the tenants are prepared to erect barricades to defend their homes.

All the tenants are being evicted for arrears of rent. But the Action Group has pointed out that most of the blame can be laid at the door of the Social Security.

Under-payment and the imposition of the wage stop has meant that many tenants have been unable to meet their rent bills.

PRISONER SURRENDERS

Keith Samuel, aged 35, of Keighley, Yorkshire, one of the two life sentence men who disappeared from Leyhill Prison, Gloucestershire on Monday, walked into a police station in Keighley yesterday after three days on the run. His cellmate was recaptured on Tuesday.

RECORD UNEMPLOYMENT AGAIN

Unemployment in Birmingham has reached a record peak. There are now 18,500 people out of work in the city, the highest number since the war.

Manchester's latest figure is 26,141.

3,200 railway shopmen will be made redundant in the near future, according to British Rail.

Down Among the Hot Lead

The barmaid said, wasn't it awful about the newspaper strike and I said but it isn t a strike, pet, and she said, no, but we'd get used to it wouldn't we. And I said, a pint of Guiness please and keep the change out of two bob. And she said, that'll be another seven new pence and wasn't it really dreadful how greedy all thse workers were. And I said, you've got it all wrong, love. It s the other bastards and the landlord said he didn't like that sort of language in here; it had always been a good respectable house which always took the Daily Express and missed it.

Anway, the barmaid continued, like I said, we'll get used to it like we got used to the postmen being on strike and I was trying to work out another way of explaining without using the word bastard that it wasn't like that at all, when a bloke in the corner with piles said what he'd liked about the postal strike was you didn't get billed did you?

Which shut me up because I remembered the same feeling myself. Trying to forget my own self-glorified fights in the NUJ, trying to screw money out of the bosses - bastards. "Look, mate, any more language like that and you'll be out, right?" - I began to wonder whether we were not in fact better off without all of the bleeders... sorry, newspaper proprietors.

And then I remembered my father. He'd been a printer on the London Evening Standard before the war. An old-fahioned hand-setting compositor who couldn't take to new-fangled machines like the linotype. And he had the job of setting the Stock Market reports.

One night he came home very happy. He had, he said, set the Stock Market copy wrongly so that the prices went down in certain cases when they should have gone up - rather like giving racing results backwards. He was not particularly proud of his mistake - just the results. Two men up to gold and nickels where their balls should have been had actually shot themselves. He felt life in Fleet Street was worthwhile after all. I don't know if papers have printers like my old man today - but at least it's worth hoping, and keeping the beastly things running.

David B

obituary

Mr Joe Walker, a free-lance journalist based in Newton-le Willows, collapsed and died yesterday in the town's courtroom.

Mr Walker was 49 and was a regular correspondent for the national newspapers in the north.

WHY WE PRINTED

The national paper dispute is over. The N.P.A. have ended their lock-out of the printers and journalists.

For 3 days the only morning paper published in Manchester has been the 'Free Press'.

By appearing the 'Free Press" broke the stranglehold of half a dozen press barons who contro -l all the major daily papers.

In spite of the high handed actions of the Fleet Street bosses, a morning paper appea--red printed and published in Manchester. Yet, for our part in showing up the bosses, as the printers of this 'free paper we have now been blacked by the N.G.A., and called 'scab printers'.

We did not print this paper for the money, for we are a non-profit making co-operative, All of us, as worker-managers, earn only a living wage that is less than that of most printing workers, and massively below the income of most managers.

Why then did we print the 'Free Press'?

Because for all of us, papers should be controlled and run democratically by those who produce the paper, while all members of the public should have an equal chance to express their views.

At present the truth is the opposite of this. The British Press is controlled by a few huge corporations and barons. The Thompsons, Murdochs, of this world, who run them for private profit and the power it gives them over the rest of us.

The national press lock-out gave a unique opportunity for journalists, printers and all those involved to show what could be done without the management. This opportunity was taken with whatever limitations.

The Moss Side Press was set up to service as a sympathetic press all 'free' and 'peoples' papers whether written by tenants neighbourhood action groups, students, shop-floor workers, or whatever. We printed the Manchester Free Press' as part of this service, even though we were critical of much of what it said, and for the failure of the proffessional journalists involved to assist others of us to contribute to the writing, rather than thinking that only they have the necessary skills.

We stand by what we have done.

RACING

2.30 Ascot

KNOCKROE LOOKS GOOD.

Knockroe should continue hisx winning run at Ascot to make it three in a row. His only threat comes from Irish-bred Riboprince, the beaten favourite last time out. But the weights and Lester Piggott's current form should tell.

Other Ascot selections: 2.00**Ouda and 4.00* Carrick Bend who should add to Willie Casrson's total.

Beverley Though overshadowed by today's bumper Ascotmeeting, should give some exciting racing. The Richard Hodgson Sweepstakes 3.20 brings together Klemperer and Moriis Dancer. I favour Klemperer to snatch the £966 prize money in the run-in.

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RADFORD GOAL SAVES LEAGUE

The star-studded Footbal League side just managed a 2-1 win over the League of Ireland in Dublin last night with a goal by John Radford in the 59th minute. The goal came just as a surprise win by the Irish looked near. The Irish forwards gave the English side many anxious moments, while the English attack rarely got the better of a fine Irish defence. But for a good performance by Gordon Banks in the English goal, the Irish might have won much more easily.

Peter Osgood of Chelsea scored from the penalty spot in the 23rd minute when Bacuzzi handled the ball. FOur minutes later, the Irish equalised with a penalty by John Matthews after Chris Lawler of Liverpool tripped LEech.

IN MOSCOW, Russia beat Northern Ireland 1-0 in the European championships. They now have a maximum eight points but Northern Ireland have only four points from four games, and now have the formidable task of winning both their remaining games, with the Russians losing theirs, if they are to have any hope of qualifying for the quarter finals.

TEE—VEE

BBC 1

9.38 - 11.38 Schools
12.55 O'n Crwdi'n Bedd
1.30 Tales of the, Riverbank
1.45 News
2.05 - 2 25 Schools
2.50 Racing from Ascot
4.15 Playschool
4.40 Jackanory
4.55 Blue Peter
5.20 Ivanhoe
5.44 Magic Roundabout
5.50 National News
60
6.0 Nationwide
6.50 Tom and Jerry
7.0 Owen MD
7.25 Top of the Pops
8.0 Bachelor Father
8.30 Monty Pythons Flying Circus
9.0 News
9.20 First Churchills
10.05 Escape to Fulfillment
10.40 24 Hours
11.40 Art and Technology
12.05 Weather and News

BBC 2

11.0 Playschool
7.05-7.30 Open University
7.30 Newsroom
8.0 Europa
8.30 Trial
9.20 Show of the Week
10.05 News on 2
10.10 World Cinema
11.40 Late Night Line-up

Granada

11.0 Schools
- 12.0
1.40 - 2.30 Schools
3.40 Farmhouse Kitchen
4.05 News Headlines
Peyton Place
4.35 Lancelot Link
4.50 Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons
5.15 Magpie
5.50 News
6.0 Newsday
6.25 Edgar Wallace
7.25 Dick Van Dyke
8.0 The Persauders
9.0 For the Love of Ada
9.30 This Week
10.0 News At Ten
10.30 Cinema
11.05 The Avengers
12.0 Closedown.

MORE FOOTBALL.

Barcelona 1
Leeds 0